

NEBRASKA

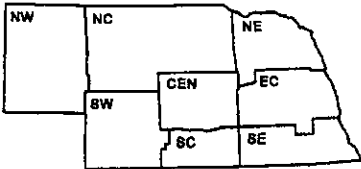
WEATHER & CROPS



For Week Ending May 4, 1997

Issue: 09-97 Phone: (402) 437-5541 P.O. Box 81069
Released: 5/05/97 - 3:00 p.m. Location: 273 Federal Bldg. Lincoln, NE 68501

National Agricultural Statistics Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
and U.S. Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admin.
National Weather Service



Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
Cooperative Extension Service
Institute of Agriculture
and Natural Resources-UN-L

WEATHER

The week was mostly cool and wet. Temperatures averaged three to seven degrees below normals. Precipitation was widespread across the State averaging from a tenth of an inch in the Southwest to over an inch and a half in the Southeast.

GENERAL

Corn producers made good planting progress the first part of the week, until rain slowed fieldwork, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Rainfall in the eastern third of the State averaged over one inch, while many southwestern counties received less than twenty-five hundredths of an inch. Other farm activities included fertilizer application, corn planting, seedbed preparation, movement of grain to market, and livestock care.

CROPS

Winter wheat condition declined from the previous week and rated 2% very poor, 9% poor, 33% fair, 50% good, and 6% excellent. Best conditions were reported in the south central, central and southeastern portions of Nebraska. By Sunday, 17% of the crop had jointed compared to 23% last year and 44% for the five-year average. Additional moisture supplies were needed in parts of the southwest and Panhandle.

CROPS (Cont.)

Corn planting advanced to 30% complete as of Sunday. This is behind last year's 55% and 32% for the five-year average. Planting activities were in full swing the first part of the week until rains limited fieldwork in many areas. Planting activities continued to be most advanced in the south central with 61% of the crop in the ground. However, northeastern producers had less than 10% planted.

Oats seeding progressed to 87%, behind 99% last year and 89% for the five-year average. As of Sunday, 43% of the crop had emerged, compared to 73% last year.

Alfalfa condition declined from the previous week and rated 7% very poor, 6% poor, 33% fair, 47% good, and 7% excellent. Reports of large amounts of winter kill were received from parts of the north central and northeastern districts.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

Pasture and range condition dropped slightly from the previous week and rated 6% poor, 26% fair, 64% good, and 4% excellent. Pasture growth was limited. Warmer temperatures were needed to promote growth. Feedlots continued to be muddy in the east. Most cattle had not yet been moved to pasture due to slow growth.

FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF MAY 4, 1997	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER- AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
	PERCENT											
% Oats Sown	89	64	84	76	94	100	100	100	87	73	99	89
% Oats Emerged	48	23	24	62	67	83	68	88	43	27	73	n/a
% Wheat Jointed	2	3	1	17	11	21	51	31	17	6	23	44
% Corn Planted	12	15	7	34	25	33	61	51	30	6	55	32
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF MAY 2, 1997												
Days Suitable	3.8	2.3	3.2	3.0	3.6	5.5	4.4	3.6	3.5	3.6	3.7	
Topsoil Moisture - Very Short	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	9	
- Short	27	9	0	0	0	37	3	0	8	9	29	
- Adequate	72	64	75	79	58	61	97	76	72	83	62	
- Surplus	0	27	25	21	42	0	0	24	20	7	0	
Subsoil Moisture - Very Short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	
- Short	12	9	1	6	3	35	10	9	9	9	45	
- Adequate	88	70	88	82	81	65	89	91	82	88	42	
- Surplus	0	21	11	12	16	0	1	0	9	3	0	

- = not available.

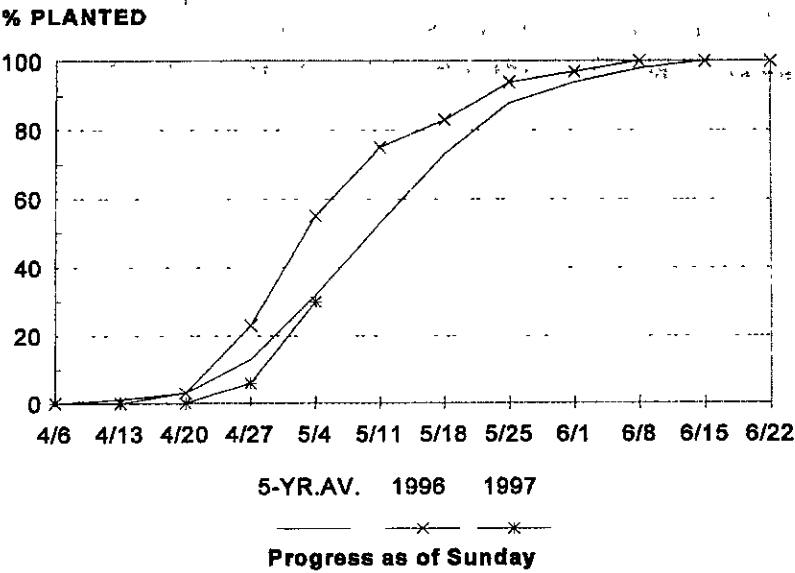
NOTE: National and Nebraska releases are now available on Internet @ <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>.

Periodical Postage
Paid at
Lincoln, Nebraska

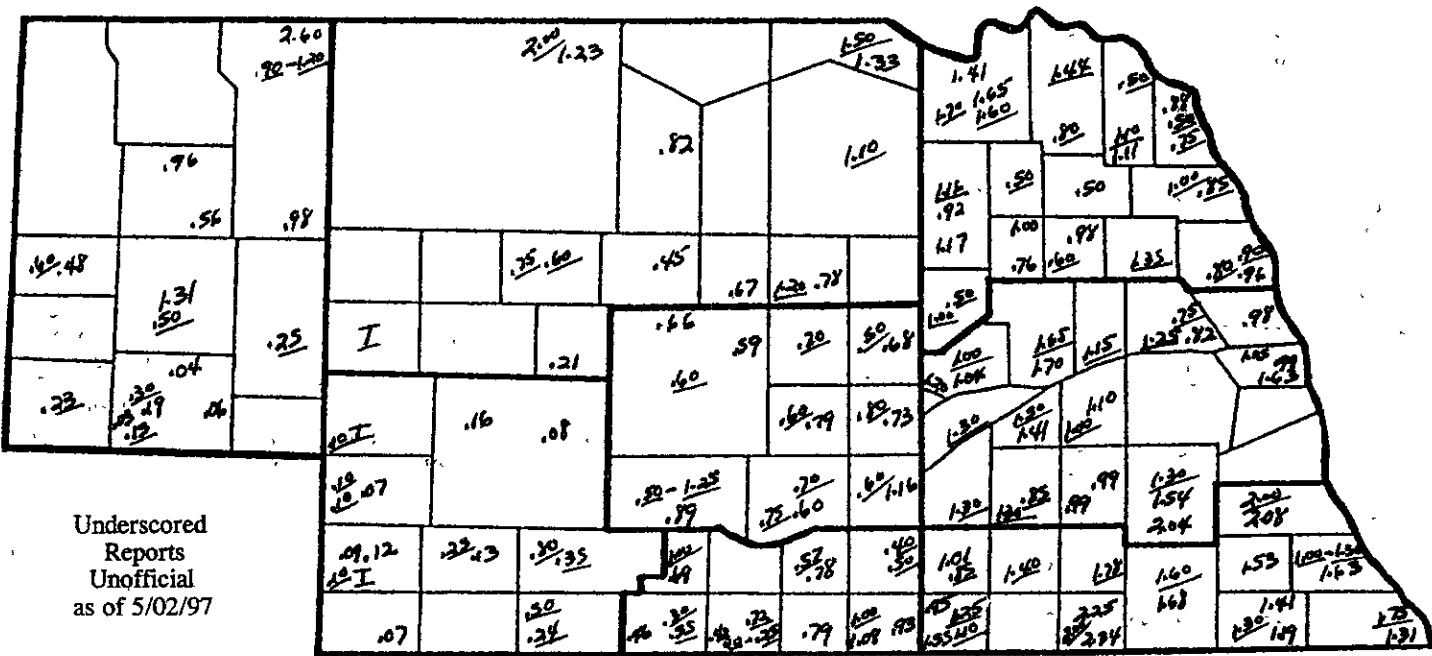
NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS
P.O. Box 81069
Lincoln, NE 68501

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS (ISSN 0745-0117) is published weekly April-November and monthly December-March by the Nebraska Department of Agriculture, Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), 100 Centennial Mall North, Room 273 Federal Building, Lincoln, NE 68508. Subscription is free to survey respondents upon request to NASS, P.O. Box 81069, Lincoln, NE 68501, or by calling (402) 437-5541 and available for \$15.00 per year to non-reporters. It is also available free by polling our FAX at (402) 437-5547 after 3:30 p.m. CT. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS, P.O. Box 81069, Lincoln, NE 68501.

CORN PLANTED



PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, MAY 3, 1997



PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - MAY 3, 1997

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.51	.78	1.03	.76	1.25	.10	.74	1.60
Total since April 1	2.33	3.18	3.29	2.59	3.42	1.03	2.24	4.15
Normal since April 1	2.07	2.45	2.82	2.75	3.09	2.17	2.43	3.16
Total as % of normal	113%	130%	117%	94%	111%	47%	92%	131%

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR
WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, May 3, 1997

Station		Temperature			Precipitation
		Extremes		Mean	Total Inches
		Max	Min		
NW	Chadron	74	25	47	1.31
	Scottsbluff	72	26	48	.48
	Sidney	69	23	46	.19
NC	Valentine	66	27	46	1.23
NE	Norfolk	75	29	49	1.00
	Sioux City	79	25	49	.88
CEN	Grand Island	77	33	51	1.16
	Ord	74	32	51	---
EC	Lincoln	78	30	52	1.54
	Omaha	76	33	52	.99
SW	Imperial	74	26	51	.12
	North Platte	69	25	49	.08